



FRIDGE NOTES: Parish Announcements
Fourth Sunday of Advent – December 21, 2025

Welcome to St Peter and St Simon's, especially if you are visiting us.

Please join us for refreshments in the Parish Hall following the 10.30 am service.

Reading Augustine's *Confessions* in Epiphany

When Saint Augustine wrote his *Confessions* he was facing and responding to a growing spread of asceticism in the Roman world. His task was twofold: to explain to himself the significance of his conversion to Christianity, and to do so in terms that would convince his readers that this was indeed the one, true faith. In his attempt to achieve these aims, Augustine produced a masterpiece of intellectual biography with an emotional intensity that makes his *Confessions* one of the great works of Christian spiritual writing.

In January we will be studying the *Confessions*. We will meet to discuss its content and look forward to two lectures by Father Walter Hannam who teaches at St Augustine's Seminary in Toronto. Father Walter is the Rector of St Bartholomew's Anglican Church on Dundas Street in Regent Park.

Dates: January 20, 27, February 3, 10, 2026

- 6 pm - Supper
- 7 to 8.30 pm - Discussion and Compline

For more information please speak with Fr Geoff.

Your Support for SPSS Matters | Further to the letter last week, if you are on Pre-Authorised Givings (PAG) you can email the office, office@stpeterstsimon.ca, and state how much you want to increase your monthly givings by. If you want to start contributing by PAG, the form can be accessed at <https://stpeterstsimon.ca/supportus/>

Hymn Notes: Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending (CP # 114)

This hymn of the Second Advent is a combination of two hymns: “Lo he cometh” by John Cennick (1752) and “Lo, he comes with clouds descending” by Charles Wesley (1758). They were combined by Martin Madan in 1769. Charles Wesley was the brother of John Wesley (founder of Methodism). John Cennick (1718-55) was a land surveyor in Reading. He was so influenced by John Wesley that in 1739 he became one of the first Methodist lay preachers. In 1745 he joined the Moravian Brethren. Martin Madan (1726-90) was a cousin of William Cowper. He graduated from Oxford and became a lawyer (1748). He was so impressed by John Wesley that he left the law and was ordained. He was chaplain of the Lock Hospital “for the restoration of unhappy females.” When in 1780 he advocated polygamy as the answer to social problems, he was forced to retire. In 1760, he published *The Lock Collection* of hymn tunes which formed the basis of most hymn collections of the next century. HELMSLEY was composed by Thomas Olivers (1725-99) and published by John Wesley in 1765. Olivers, a Methodist preacher, said he adapted the tune from a melody he heard someone whistle in the street. Martin Madan published a revised version of the tune in 1769, naming it HELMSLEY.

Submitted by Diane Way

SPSS SERVICES AND EVENTS

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21 – ADVENT IV

4 PM A COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS CAROL CELEBRATION

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24 – CHRISTMAS EVE

5 PM, FAMILY COMMUNION SERVICE WITH CAROLS

10 PM, FESTAL CHORAL EUCHARIST

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 25 – CHRISTMAS DAY

10:30 AM, SUNG EUCHARIST

SUNDAY DECEMBER 28 - CHRISTMAS 1

9 AM AND 10:30 SERVICES AS USUAL

***No Wednesday 11am Eucharist on December 24 and 31,
Wednesday services will resume on Jan 7th 2026.***

2025 Tax receipts | Tax receipts for 2025 will be issued in February. To receive a receipt for your 2025 contributions please be sure that all contributions are in by Sunday December 28th.

SPSS Website | For all your parish news and events, please visit our website:
<https://stpeterstsimon.ca/>

The flowers and decorations are given to the honour and glory of almighty God from:

Ena Forde in memory of loved ones;

Rosemary Hutchinson in memory of Margaret Agnes Hutchenson, Margaret Hutcheson,
George Hutchinson, Frances Huthison, David Hutchison;

Margaret Huycke;

Gloria Martin in memory of Samuel Clay;

Robert O'Keefe in thanks for the Christmas Decorations in the Church;

Jean Ponter in memory of her sons Graeme and Steven Ponter;

Joy Quan Lee;

Isabelle & Ted Robinson in memory of our parents Angel, Albert, Doris & Bill;

Geoffrey Sangwine, in loving memory of Anthony Sangwine

and other beloved family members;

Russell David Smith in memory of Carl Lee Shain.

SCAN and DONATE

To make a donation to the Church, open up the camera on any smartphone and point it at the QR code and a web page will open to take you directly to Canada Helps' donation page for the Church of St Peter and St Simon-the-Apostle. You will receive an auto-generated tax receipt emailed directly from CanadaHelps.org. Thank you for your support. Alternatively, you can forward an e-transfer to office@stpeterstsimon.ca and a receipt will be mailed out at the beginning of the following year. Be sure to include your mailing address in the memo field. Forwarding an e-transfer directly to the church will save on the administration fee charged by Canada Helps.





St. Peter and St. Simon-the-Apostle

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416.923.8714 www.stpeterstsimon.ca www.facebook.com/stpeterstsimons

CLERGY, WARDENS & STAFF

Incumbent	The Reverend Canon Geoffrey Sangwine, option 1; incumbent@stpeterstsimon.ca ; Mobile: 416.720.2099
Honorary Assistant	The Reverend Canon Michael Burgess
Wardens	David Carrington – Rector’s Warden, dcarrington.omers@sympatico.ca David Rounthwaite – People’s Warden, fdrounthwaite@msn.com
Deputy Wardens	Spencer Higgins, Laurie Sanderson
Choir Director	Mervin Fick, mfick0101@gmail.com
Caretaker	Daiverzon Guillermo, 647-863-0698
Children’s Ministry	Sileen Phillips, 647.718.6728 kidscoordinator@yahoo.com
Envelope Secretary	Paul Michell pablo51@rogers.com
Parish Administrator	Jessy Balendra, option 3, office@stpeterstsimon.ca

Church Office Hours

Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, 9:30 am to 5:30 pm.

SERVICES

Sundays

9.00am	Weekly Holy Eucharist (BCP) - In the Chapel of Holy Spirit)
10.30 am	1 st and 3 rd Sundays Choral Eucharist – Traditional BCP Rite
2 nd Sunday	Choral Matins (unless announced)
4 th Sunday	Choral Eucharist – Contemporary BAS Rite
5 th Sunday & Evensong	As Announced

Wednesdays

11.00 am	Weekly Eucharist – Contemporary BAS Rite
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We acknowledge that in gathering to worship Almighty God, we are in the traditional territory of many First Nations peoples including the Mississaugas of the New Credit, the Anishinaabe, the Haudenosaunees, and the Huron-Wendat.

"The earth is the Lord's, and all that therein is, the world and all who dwell therein." Psalm 24.1